

TIPS FOR MISSION



Jess Connolly

AND FRIENDS
ON MISSION

Friends! This eBook started as an idea, a small compilation of a few tips from my friends to you as a little bonus project. What unfolded, however, is a jam-packed little book that we cannot wait to share with you. I've asked some of my closest friends, as well as the women I truly look up to, if they'd share their tips with you about mission. On top of that, we polled many women around us and asked, "what are your BIGGEST questions regarding mission," and we've set out to answer those the best we could.

This is from my heart to yours, one gal trying to answer Jesus' call to make disciples right where she's at, fumbling and often flailing, but truly wanting to honor the Lord. Just like you are.

I'd like to say a massive thanks to my friends and mentors who contributed; you ladies are the real deal, and I'm so blessed to know you.

We hope you enjoy!

Jess

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO RUN ON MISSION?

This is absolutely not a dumb question. It's actually great refresher and reminder for those of us who follow Jesus. In Matthew 28, Jesus handed all of his disciples (or followers) one mission or directive. He told us to go and make disciples (other followers) and baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

So to run on mission means that you're actively obeying that command. What does it look like? It varies wildly from person to person, season to season, and gift to gift. For some of us, running on mission looks like intentionally parenting our children and praying for them to become followers of Jesus. For others it will look like standard ministry - working in the church or in an organization explicitly aimed at making more followers of Jesus. For many of us, probably MOST of us, it looks like living where we live, working in the jobs we're in, and just doing it with our eyes open to see how we can use what God has given us to bring as many people as we can into an abundant relationship with God.

Simply put: running on mission means intentionally living the life God has called you to, using what He's given you to bring Him glory, and encouraging others to follow Him.

THE VERY NEXT QUESTION AFTER WHAT IT MEANS TO RUN ON MISSION IS THIS:

HOW DO YOU RUN ON MISSION?

I'm going to share an answer that is totally not original, but the best one I think is out there. Our church and our family use an acronym that was originally created by Dave Ferguson, a church planter from Chicago. I'm going to paraphrase what it means in my own language, but I highly suggest reading any of his resources on mission!

How do we make disciples?
How do we run on mission?

B.L.E.S.S.



B.L.E.S.S.

B: Begin with prayer. Ask God who He might want you to share the gospel with. Ask Him for a heart for certain people groups. Pray before you spend time with those people. They can be your children, your coworkers, your family, or random strangers you're going to meet on a mission trip. Begin with prayer.

L: Look and listen. Honestly, we're usually gung-ho to go and do and say all the things, but one of the best ways we can love people is to listen to them: what matters to them, what they are upset about, what their problems are. Don't listen in order to respond with your own wisdom. Just love them by listening.

E: Eat together. Sounds simple, but it's huge. Have lunch with your coworkers, invite your neighbors over for dinner. Eat with your toddlers occasionally instead of waiting until they take a nap. There's something sacred about eating together – Jesus proved that!

S: Serve. Identify their needs and ask God to help you help them. This doesn't mean you become their savior; it doesn't mean you enable them. You serve them because Jesus would. It could be as simple as buying a cup of coffee or helping them move. Show up, not just once, and serve.

Lastly, and I do mean lastly: **Share.** There will be times where God calls us to share the gospel on the spot with people or share our testimonies with them, but I find it usually goes best if we've been in relationship with them for quite some time. We've listened well, we've shared a meal, they've seen that we'll keep showing up. And maybe they ask about our church or our faith or our marriage, or maybe we simply ask if we can share.

Doesn't that free you up a lot? To know that being on mission is as simple as praying, listening, eating, serving - and then, when the time is right and the relationship is ready - sharing the VERY GOOD NEWS that has changed your life?



**ASK HIM FOR
OPPORTUNITIES.**

**ASK HIM TO PLACE PEOPLE
IN YOUR PATH IF THEY'RE
NOT ALREADY OBVIOUSLY
THERE.**

**ASK HIM TO HUMBLE YOU
AND BREAK YOUR HEART
FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.**

**AND THEN BOLDLY GET
AFTER IT!**



ERIN CARROLL

Remembering that this isn't for me, isn't through me, and isn't about me. I frequently worry about how God will reach people through me, letting the pressure of it weigh me down, and that can be straight up debilitating if I allow it to be! But when I remember the simple fact that God can do what He wants with me, and without me, it takes all of the weight off. God's intention is to bring souls and glory back to Himself; He simply chooses to use us as His vessels, and we benefit from that - we receive grace and mercy, joy and peace, provisions and goodness. But at the end of the day, it's always by Him and through Him that the work is done, and remembering that allows me to tap into His immeasurable strength rather than relying on my own.



**KRISTEN
BEAUMONT**

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Worry is meditation in the wrong direction. Any time we worry we are borrowing a future possibility and making it a present reality. To stay on mission we must stay away from worry. I often tell people, “If you know how to worry you know how to meditate, just in the wrong direction.”

So, change course.

Meditate in the direction of JESUS.

Meditate on His promises.

Let your meditation become worship. Meditate on what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy, these things will shift your worry to worship.

[*Philippians 4:8*]



**JEANNE
STEVENS**

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HOW DO YOU RUN ON MISSION WITH KIDS?

There are two important answers here, but first let's go ahead and stomp on the lie that you're only a mom or that you've been benched by God, needing to sit out of mission while you mother. Those are lies from the enemy of our souls, and for too many generations women have believed that motherhood equates a break (whether wanted or not) from doing ministry.

Now our two answers:

First of all, you start at home. Mission is a multiplication game. It's this beautiful equation that God has placed us in, where we give all we've got and He multiplies our efforts so that more and more and more people can know Him. So let's say you've got 3 kids. Can you imagine the eternal implications if you let the Lord use your hours and days with them to point them to Jesus? Can you imagine if each of them did the same with three other people? And so on and so forth? If you never share the gospel with ANYONE ELSE and God does the saving work with all of them that He LOVES to do, you're looking at 81 disciples made by the time you've got great-grandkids.

How do you run on mission toward your children in your home? You don't behave perfectly for starters. You be you, a sinner saved by grace, who still needs Jesus. You let them see you partake in His grace and His salvation. You apologize and repent in front of them, letting them see how great it is to experience His pardon. You try to love them well and fail, and let them see you accept grace for that. You let them see you seek Him. Let them see you pray and read His Word, not because you have to, but because you were made to commune with Him.

And you pray for them. And you serve them. And you love them. And you leave the rest up to Him. And until your dying breath or theirs, you beg Him to grab their hearts and put their eyes on you - and you continually take the pressure off yourself to produce children who love God or to make them something acceptable - since He is the only one who can do that.

Second of all, I have found it incredibly life giving and helpful to INVITE my kids into my mission. There are varying levels of doing this and endless ideas here, but let's start with a few.

Talk to them about it! You're leading a ladies small group or inviting your neighbors to church? Tell your kids! If you're writing a book or serving at the local homeless shelter, tell your kids! Tell them how it's going, tell them WHY you're doing it, tell them what is challenging about it. They don't seem to care so much? Well, that's natural, they're kids. Keep telling them.

Ask your kids to pray with you regarding your ministry. First, this means you need to be praying. Second, your kids have to see you praying. Third, after they've expressed an interest in having a relationship with God, teach them about prayer, and share the things you're praying about. If you haven't done this, you'll LIGHT UP seeing how invested your kids will get in the things you're praying for. I'm also willing to bet you'll be shocked at their faithful and earnest petitioning to the Father.

Let them come with you when it's appropriate. Let them sit in on your Bible Study or help make invitations to church. If they're old enough, take them with you when you serve the homeless or bring them with you when you go to church events. Our family decided years ago that the biggest area of mission in our life was going to be planting a church. You know who are the most faithful servants at our church? Our two oldest kids. They're 10 and 9; one runs slides for worship, and the other serves in the nursery. The other two aren't serving quite yet, but they LOVE being at church because they've seen us LOVE being at church. We'd heard horror stories about church planting kids; and we're not out of the woods yet, but we've found that as we invest in them, they're thrilled to invest in our stuff as well. My daughter likes to travel with me when I speak at churches; they tag along when we're taking meals or providing childcare for people in our church. They help make personal invitations for their friends and neighbors for special church events.

They *own* the mission with us. It's ours collectively.

Lastly, you find out what specific ministries and missions God might have placed on their hearts, and you dive in deep when you can. I have one child who is broken over the homeless in our city. When she says she'd like to make sandwiches and hand them out, I make room in my schedule. I have a huge feeling that one day the mission center of her heart is going to take her overseas or to the ends of the earth, and I'm prepping my heart for that day when I can dive in deep supporting her, visiting her, and cheering her on.

HOW DO YOU RUN ON MISSION WHEN YOU'RE SICK? WHEN YOU'RE DEPRESSED? WHEN YOU'RE GOING THROUGH A ROUGH SEASON?

First and foremost, you make sure you're taken care of. If you need rest in any way, don't believe the lie that you have to be productive to be valuable to God. The analogy about putting on your oxygen mask before helping someone else applies here. Stretch out the familiarity that has been purchased for you with God the Father and take the mercy you need.

Then! If you're still feeling the tug to mission in this season, here are a few ideas:

You can always pray. Remember that prayer is a hugely valuable tool of mission-minded women. It's not weak. It's not lazy. It's huge. You can pray when you're sick or depressed or broke or homeless.

Receiving is ministering. Letting others help you and letting the Lord help you shows so much of God's character to those around you. Don't believe that you have to be giving to be showing the power of the Father. Open up and allow others to pray, serve, and encourage you. Our gospel is one for needy people. We're not only in need of salvation, but we're in need of His constant help and He created us to help meet one another's earthly needs as well.

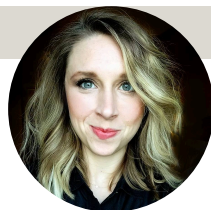
Share your story. Whether you're in the midst of it or if that pain has already passed, it can be incredibly powerful to be honest about what you're going through so that God can get more glory as He is made much of in your weakness. Do you think He only gets praise when the problem goes away? No way. Think of that woman who worships through tears at her son's funeral, believing that the best is yet to come in eternity. Think about the friend who died of cancer but went down swinging and proclaiming the name of Jesus. In our thin and weak spaces, God can be made much of in a whole new way.



GINA ZEIDLER

Wrestle under the wing of our Father. Go to him with the spinning and ask for HIS clarity instead of your girlfriends' group text. Make it a habit of LEANING IN when you aren't certain and let Him overwhelm you with His presence.

HAYLEY MORGAN



Any time I get more caught up in the mission than Jesus, I pause. I always need to remember that intimacy with God is the point; Jesus is the prize. When that gets out of whack things get weird. But, when I know that Jesus is what I'm after, I am able to run with perseverance.





**RACH
KINCAID**

Ask God to connect the dots. He's faithful and He's smart and He loves to weave things together in our story to show Himself strong. Get quiet, and ask Him to connect the dots.

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Cover everything in honest prayer. I once heard that prayer should be poured out like vinegar and oil. First, bring your vinegar to the Lord – the real, raw, ‘how I’m really doing’ prayers. Pray palms down, and let it all go at His feet. Then bring the rich oil – the good stuff, the praises, the petitions, the visions and dreams, the cries of your heart. Nothing is too small or too big to bring before Him – He wants it all.

**NANCY RAY**

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HOW DO YOU REST + GET REFILLED WHILE ON MISSION?

Know what re-creates you. The first step to experiencing rest and the refilling power of the Holy Spirit is knowing HOW He made you to receive rest. You know what doesn't make me feel rested? A nap. It makes me feel groggy and confused and fussy. My husband can crush a 15 minute power nap and come out the other side raring to go love people. What helps me? A long run alone with my headphones on.

Here are some examples of things that might make you feel rested and put back together: time alone, time with family, cooking and cleaning, reading the Bible, sitting in silence, playing loud music, exercising, adventure, the ocean, the mountains, drinking coffee, playing with your kids, going on a walk, going for a swim, taking a nap, sleeping in, waking up early to catch the sunrise, or watching the sunset.

It takes a little experimentation and creativity and trial and error, but you have to know what makes YOU feel more like YOU.

Work from rest. This is a really simple principle that simply means you schedule and execute your rest BEFORE you work or run on mission. Best example for me: Sundays are a Super Bowl. We're all serving at church: Nick is preaching, I'm leading prayer, we're meeting new people, making connections, and physically doing a lot of work since we are a set-up/tear-down mobile church. We could come home on Sundays and collapse, trying to find ourselves again, OR we could start on Saturday - prepping our hearts, home, and bodies to be poured out the next day.

Now, we rarely make plans Saturday nights. We use those Saturday mornings for laundry and house keeping and play the rest of the day. We turn in early, and we're off social media most Saturdays. I wake up super early and go for a run. When I get back, Nick goes on a prayer walk. We walk into church READY so that we don't walk out exhausted.

You work from rest. Schedule that into your week and into your rhythms without making excuses. If life is too busy for some sort of Sabbath, for some chunk of time where you're getting with God and letting Him fill you up, you're probably TOO busy. Something has got to go.

“ **ABIDE. WATCH
AS YOU GIVE
YOURSELF TO
THE LORD, HOW
HE WILL PLACE
NEW TERRITORY
IN YOUR HANDS.**



JENA HOLLIDAY

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Mission is refreshing. Sometimes in a full life where you are pouring out a lot it can leave you more weary than ready. One of the lies about mission is you need a lot of margin to do it; you will get to it when you're not so busy (insert: tired, exhausted, surviving). Actually, it's refreshing to live purposefully to make time for mission, and I believe it leaves you more full.

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**KATIE
WALTERS**

HOW DO I HELP OTHER WOMEN GET EXCITED TO RUN ON MISSION WITH ME?

Four quick and easy things:

1. You repent if you're judging them. If you think they're not doing enough, get back in your circle of holiness and ask God to give you eyes to see them the way He does. He isn't standing over you with His arms crossed, waiting for you to get it together, so don't do the same to your sister in Christ. You can want more for her and not judge her; the two are not mutually exclusive.
2. Invite her! Have you invited her? Maybe no one has ever asked her to help serve. This can be as simple as inviting a younger gal with you to the grocery store and letting her see you have intentionally life-giving conversations with the checkout girl. It could be as big as inviting her on a mission trip. Invite her!
3. Call her up, not out. Speak life over her, and share the beautiful gifts you see God has given her. She might not know that her affection for baking can be a ministry tool. You might see that she'd be a phenomenal teacher, but no one has told her. Tell her she was made for this and that you believe God will give her all she needs to do what He's asked her to.
4. Lastly - let her see you having fun on mission. If you're not enjoying it, why would she want in? This doesn't mean that you hide the hardship, but you do share the joy in your mission to show her: this is A GET TO, not a have to.

MORIAH SUNDE



The role of a mentor is to help catapult others into who God has called them to be, help them cast vision for their future, champion and affirm them in who they already are as sons and daughters of Christ.





NOTICE OTHERS.

**LOOK UP AND SEE THE
BEAUTIFUL OPPORTUNITIES
YOU MIGHT BE PASSING BY
WHILE WASTING TIME ON
YOUR PHONE. ALWAYS ASK**

**FOR EYES TO SEE WHAT
HE SEES.**





**KATIE
WALTERS**



DON'T GO ALONE.

**ALL THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE,
WHATEVER GOD CALLED HIS
PEOPLE TO, HE BROUGHT A TEAM,
A PARTNER, A MIDWIFE. WHATEVER
HE IS ASKING OF YOU, LET YOUR
QUESTION BACK TO HIM BE: SHOW
ME WHO ELSE IS TO GO WITH ME.**

HOW DO YOU RUN ON MISSION AS AN INTROVERT?

The same way you run on mission with kids, with red hair, as an oldest child, or with the ability to sing. Being an introvert isn't a mission death sentence, it's not even a bad thing! It will shift how you run on mission, but it won't make it harder or easier. It's a part of how God's wired you.

It may shift the ways in which you choose to minister to others. It may shift how you rest for running on mission. One thing is for certain: your God-given identity is a woman on mission, even more than you're an introvert. You're a disciple-maker first, and your personality traits fall underneath that, becoming subject to it.

I'm absolutely an introvert, but I love community and I love mission. Here are some ways this plays out for me:

I spend time alone before pouring out: a run before church, quiet time on my headphones before I head to a ministry event.

I research and practice helpful phrases to use when small talking. It drains me, but I know it loves people well. So I try to get better at it.

I ask God for help. "Hey, this situation feels terrifying to me, but I know you want me to love people well. Help me do this for your glory, ok?" Game changer.



Set good goals. Jesus had goals. He didn't come to walk on this earth with fuzzy intentions or indirect pursuits. We often dismiss goal setting as "un-Christian," and that can certainly be true. But there is a way to uncover and take action on goals that fuel us to live on mission, and it's essential as a disciple of Jesus. God has given us a commission in His word to share the Gospel. That takes intentionality. It takes fighting the distractions around us. It takes hard work. Good goals are about stewarding what you've been given well: your money, time, talents, relationships – everything. And all for the glory of Christ. How many times did the Israelites lose sight of the truth and veer off on distracted paths? So many times that it's almost painful to read, but it is a humbling mirror to our own lives too. Good goals are arrows that help to give us focus. Good goals help us prioritize the Lord over the World. Good goals are God goals.



**LARA
CASEY**

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Set boundaries. In our ministry and my work, we have to protect our marriage and our rest (without being legalistic and too rigid), so we can operate in a healthy mindset. Learning to say "no" or "not today" has become a tool in my tool belt that is used as a way to protect our time and hearts rather than seeing myself as a failure for not meeting everyone's expectations.

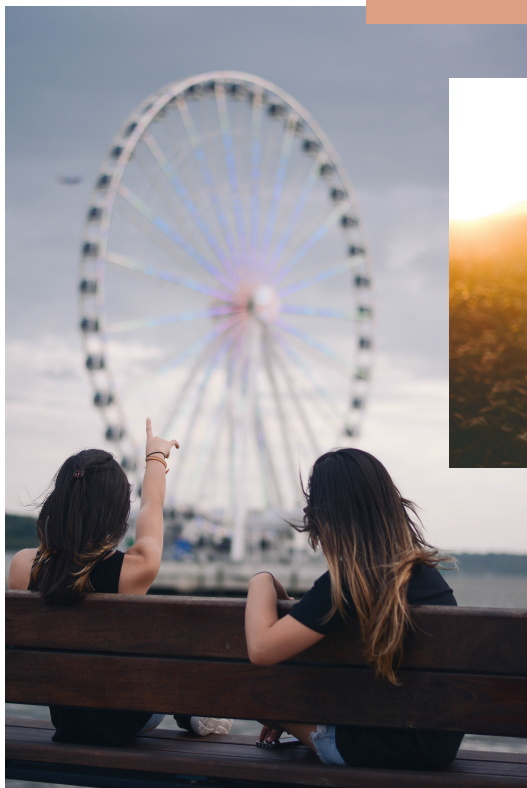
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**KIM
DAVIS**

Set visual reminders. I remember my mom use to have 3x5 cards all over our house. Growing up, I didn't realize how much those had become her sanity. Verses, quotes, prayers, they kept her mind focused when the world wouldn't stop spinning. Now I've inherently started doing the same thing for me and my family to remember, "We are kind, we are strong, we are wise, we are brave."

JULIANNA MORLET



**WHAT ARE SIMPLE + PRACTICAL
QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK TO SPARK
MEANINGFUL, MISSIONAL
CONVERSATIONS?**

I always marvel at this one question my husband asks that unlocks *everything*. It's a doozy, so hold on to your hats:

"How long have you lived here?"

Seems terribly uncomfortable, right? Not so much! :) He doesn't ask how their soul is doing or if they believe in God. Not at first! He merely asks how long they've lived in our city. He's found that it's a great gateway question to hearing where someone comes from, what their life has been like, and where they're going.

I've got one more that might change your life a little. Try it on for size:

"How are you doing?" Ask them, then listen. And if they give you a short answer, no worries! Ask again tomorrow, or next week, or the next time you see them. Keep asking, keep listening, and they'll open up eventually.

**Know that
Jesus really IS
enough for all
of your needs.**



HAYLEY MORGAN



**HOW DO YOU CONQUER THE FEAR
THAT YOU'RE DOING IT WRONG OR
THAT YOU'RE NOT DOING ENOUGH?**

The scientists say that all human emotions are either rooted in fear or in love. My honest advice is to dive into love on these particular concerns. Knowing what you know about God's love and grace, do you think HE thinks you're not doing enough, and do you think He's frustrated that you're not doing it right? What is His stance towards you?

Secondly, I always find it helpful to walk a fear all the way out. The truth is there are going to be seasons where I could be doing more and there are going to be seasons where I do it very wrong. More often than not, I find that I learn about running on mission by doing it wrong the first few times and finally figuring out what works. So walk the fear all the way out: what if YOU ARE doing it wrong and what if YOU'RE NOT doing enough? Does He still love you? Can you learn from your mistakes and correct course?

Stomp your feet and throw your hands in the air and remember that you're a gal who needs Jesus. Remind yourself and the enemy that He's the only right one. Declare that you're not here to do it right and be found good. God called you good when He made you and set you free on the cross. You're not in it to do it all right, you're in it for His glory.

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Comparison kills contentment.

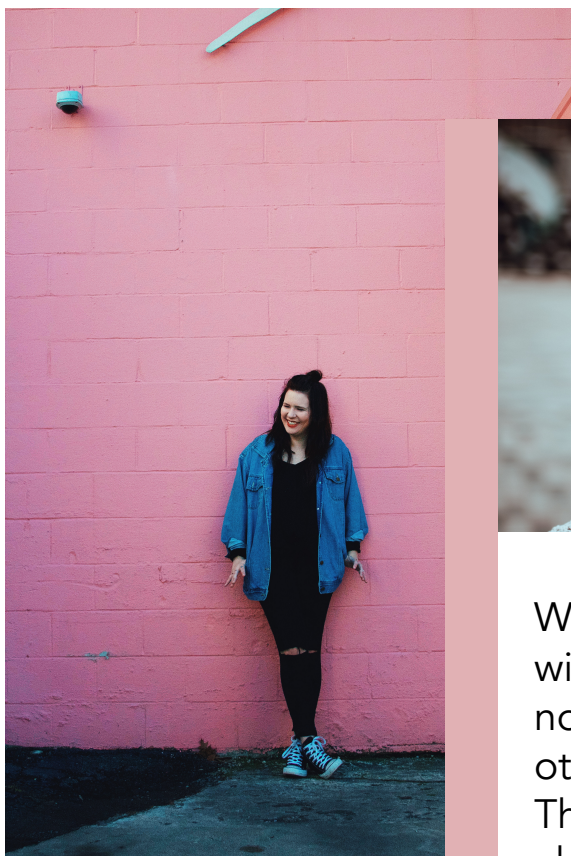
**Keep your eyes
on YOUR Mission.**

You will never settle into a space of true peace and contentment if you are constantly comparing your race to someone else. Comparison will always send you in two directions that don't produce fruit. When you feel better than in your comparison, you will experience pride. When you feel less than in your comparison, you will feel insecure. Keep your eyes on your mission and that is where you will experience contentment.



**JEANNE
STEVENS**

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While answering Him with a grateful yes, try not to look around at other people's yeses. They will most likely always seem easier, more glamorous, exciting, etc. Just trust Him that He knows you better than you know you, and His plan is more than you have asked for or imagined!



**KATIE
WALTERS**

HOW CAN I TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMPLACENCY AND CONTENTMENT IN MISSION?

There's a thin line between complacency and contentment, and the good news is that there's one tell-tell sign differentiating them: worship.

Are you working hard to earn your keep? Trying to do all the things so you can be found worthy and deserving of God's affection? That's probably not worshipful.

Are you swinging too far the other way - not trying, basking in your own comfort or issues, denying His ability to move in your life because you want to keep things tidy, controlled, or put together? That doesn't sound like worship.

Are you landing in bed each night, wrung out for the glory of God, tired but grateful? Do you feel stretched thin but held by Him - pressed, but not crushed? Are you working hard but staying hopeful? That sounds like worship.

Are you in a season of waiting, praying, receiving, resting? Are you taking a break or pulling back because God told you to? Is He attending to your needs and encouraging you to stay in His presence a little while longer before you run out and try to change the world? That sounds like worship.

Only you can know, but you always know.



Do the work trusting that God will bring the harvest in due time. You may not see the fruit of your labor in every season, but that doesn't mean it isn't there. He is faithful. Be willing to stand for whatever He has spoken and given you, no matter who thinks it's crazy; and trust me, many will think what you're doing doesn't make sense. Remember: if He called you to it, He will complete the work, and as you abide in Him, He'll show you exactly what your part in that very plan is.



JENA HOLLIDAY



DEBBIE HOPPER



God never wastes a thing. Roughly translated from Romans 8:28, He uses every season for good, and many times we don't see it. The job you're in that seems mundane and far from a calling will be used one day in a way you never imagined. The neighbor who always requires extra grace was positioned near you for a reason. The children you are feeding and changing and chauffeuring are in your school of mission for a season. Every season, no matter how dry or boring or non-glamorous, is the fine print of God's book that is being written.

HOW DO YOU STAY PATIENT WHILE WAITING ON GOD TO MOVE?

Remind yourself that He is *always* moving, never stagnant, never stalled. You may not see how or where He is moving, but He's not holding out.

Thank Him for what He has done and what He is doing.

Take your hands off the prize or the supposed hopeful outcome. Remember that He is the prize and He is the hope. He may have a solution to your concern that's better than you could have asked or imagined.

Remember that your prayers aren't wasted. It can't be bad for you to continually beg Him for help. Ask Him to move His hand or to help you seek His face and His will. No matter what happens, you will have sought God, and He promises to always be found.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU'RE CHASING YOUR AMBITIONS OR RUNNING ON MISSION?

A great way to know where your heart is concerning mission is this: What do you picture as the prize or the goal?

Is it the praise of humans? A stadium of people thinking you're great? Is it all of your kids appreciating your work and cheering you on as a mom? Your husband acknowledging how gifted you are? Is it you feeling satisfied with a job well done or a dream accomplished? Then it might be time for a little heart adjustment. Don't despair; it happens to the best of us. It happens to ALL of us. Repent, remind your heart of who the real prize is, and keep going.



Running on mission is about surrender. It seems backwards to the world, but humility and surrendering to the Lord's ways (which often feels like dying a little death) is how we grow in the right direction. When a seed is planted in the ground, it first has to let go of it's outer shell before it can sprout. When it lets go of that protective covering, it presses toward the light to grow and do what it was created to do. It's the same with our lives. When we let go of our comforts, our ways, and our pride, we press toward His glorious light and live out what we were created for.



**LARA
CASEY**



**KIM
DAVIS**

Surrender. My to do lists aren't as important as I think they are. Surrendering my will and my day to His will and His plan for my day doesn't always look the same, but open hands saying, "Your will, not mine. I'm laying down all my longings before you," is a good place to start. The heart posture of surrender does more for my ministry than anything I try to do in my own strength.

**JENA
HOLLIDAY**



Surrender. Learn that it's not about you but about the Kingdom. If you step out of your comfort zone and do what God has planned for you instead of only what you want, you will see He takes far better care of you than you'd ever imagine. And that doesn't always mean He will go the way you thought, but trust that the way He is taking you is the right way, no matter how hard, tiring, or tough.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE MISSION IN THE MIDST OF THE MUNDANE?

One of the greatest lies the enemy has told us is that mission only happens on the mountain top. That couldn't be further from the truth! Kids get saved on random Tuesdays, repentance happens at coffee shops and in backrooms at the office. Miracles take place in college dorms, and revival can break out on a random weekday. The disciples were doing their day job when Jesus called them to follow Him. Mission LIVES and THRIVES in the mundane.

Ask God for eyes to see the eternal things happening all around you. Ask Him for a kingdom heart that hears the cry of souls all around you. Ask Him for a mind that is so aware of mission, it could never dream of being bored.

“

Eyes up!

Time and time again, when I reach a roadblock in my heart, fussing about the place I'm at in life, causing worry or anxiety, extra comparison, or discouragement, I find that I'm focusing on myself and my situation rather than on the Lord. Keeping my eyes fixed FIRMLY on His promises keeps me more at ease, resting in His peace, His security, His provisions and less on what I can do on my own. Keeping a grateful heart, grateful for what He HAS done and IS doing brings me reassurance every single time.



**KRISTEN
BEAUMONT**

”

WHAT IF YOUR HUSBAND ISN'T AS PASSIONATE ABOUT MISSION AS YOU ARE?

Revisit the section on how to get other women to run on mission with you, but turn it up a notch!

REALLY, REALLY do not judge him.

Make sure you've lovingly invited him to join you.

Have you called him up? Have you spoken life over the gifts God has given him?

Lastly, are you showing him that running on mission is the most abundant assignment you've been given by God?



WHAT IF YOUR MISSION IS DIFFERENT FROM YOUR HUSBAND'S?

This is tricky, but I've lived it in many different circumstances! The biggest thing you can do is decide that even if only one of you is actively executing the mission, the other person CAN own it with them.

Here's what I mean: let's say your husband is leading a small group of teenage boys. You can't really do that with him, but you can pray for the guys. You can pray for your husband. You can free him up to get time with them. You can make them cookies for when they meet.

Let's say you want to minister to unwed teen mothers. Your husband can pray for you and them. He can put the kids to bed once a week so you can go help them put their kids to bed. He can help them with their finances.

It takes a lot of grace for one another, a lot of conversation and communication. It takes trial and error, figuring out what you have to give and what you need from one another. You may go slower in those particular ministries because you're partnering with one another, but you'll stay running longer than you would if you went alone. I wholeheartedly believe it's worth trying to partner together on each mission God has called you to.

**RUNNING THIS RACE
ALONGSIDE MY HUSBAND
HAS BEEN SO INTEGRAL
TO STAYING THE COURSE.
PURSUING OUR CALLING
TOGETHER HAS MADE
THE "MISSION"
ATTAINABLE, FULFILLING
AND ADVENTUROUS.**



**AUDREY
CARMONA**

HOW DO YOU RUN ON MISSION AND STILL DO YOUR JOB WELL?

This is a great question because for most of us, our job isn't our mission. Even for pastors and those who work in full-time ministry, their jobs are often running the ministry, building teams, and handling administrative duties. But for all of us? Our work CAN be our mission, whether it's secular or full blown full-time ministry work.

Let's hit a few important notes here:

Your job should probably come first. I mean, Jesus and the kingdom always come first, but we can worship Him via our responsible and worshipful response to work. If you work as a barista forty hours a week, I don't think the obvious answer is quitting that so you can go to Africa. Maybe for a very small sample of us that will be the call, but the rest of us get to show up and be the hands and feet of Jesus right where we are. However, it's hard to be a great light for God if we're totally irresponsible or unreliable workers.

Second, you can be on mission right where you're at. Always. Nannies. Executives. Flight attendants. Dog walkers. You're probably exposed to humans at some point, and loving them well makes you the light of Christ. If you're totally separated from any other human contact, you can still worship God through your work and spend your time praying about mission! It's everywhere.

This last point might sound fairly controversial, but I think it's worth going there. You can balance mission and your job by walking the very thin line between doing your job worshipfully and trying to take over the world. If you're showing up to work intentionally and thoughtfully, trying to execute your role with excellence, that's beautiful. If you're showing up, trying to be the absolute best and beat everyone else while you rise to the top and make a name for yourself, you might miss out on some mission. I'm not saying that you should hold back or hide your gifting for the sake of the cross. I am saying that you can listen to the Holy Spirit and ask Him to pierce your heart about whose kingdom you're building.

Here's how this practically plays out for me: very often I have to turn down opportunities to travel and speak because if I do it too often, I miss out on the mission God has assigned for me in my home and in my local church. There's a temptation in the back of my heart around the time I launch a book to work 18 hours a day and push, push, push so that I can have the best book launch ever, but I know there's a limit. Sometimes I have to put the phone down and close the laptop, so I don't miss the mission right at my feet.

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Believe that God has placed you right where you are for a very specific reason. If you're at home, if you're at home part time and working part time, if you're single and building a career, or if you have absolutely no idea what you're doing, God has placed you there for such a time as this.

Believe it!



**ERIN
CARROLL**

”

MINI-COACHING SESSION WITH TRISHA DAVIS

"Season and capacity."

These words are my lifeline and my guide to maintaining a lifestyle that allows me to be a healthy wife, mom, friend and leader. Regardless of your age or relational status, knowing your capacity to accomplish your goals in your current season of life will help you set realistic goals and maintain healthy boundaries along the way. So how do you define your season and capacity?

Ask yourself three simple questions.

1. What are your non-negotiables?

In other words, what relationships and events or opportunities are most important to you?

When my oldest entered into high school, I didn't realize this season would entail homecoming and prom and Friday night sectional games. It only took missing one homecoming dance (because I had already committed to speak at an event) to never miss it again. Now obviously, I've missed games here and there, but I've attended more than I missed. If you're married and/or have kids, ask them about their own non-negotiables. You may be surprised that your child could care less that you are at every single game but REALLY wanted you at his "field day" at school (true story).

PRIORITIZE WHAT MATTERS. If you're single and value Friday nights with friends, make it a priority. If you're an introvert who loves spending Friday night at home, schedule it. If you want to be a writer, make time to write! If you want to get healthy, schedule your time at the gym. If you cherish tucking your kids in at night, set your schedule to be out only one night a week. Know your non-negotiables.

2. What are my strengths? What do I do well? How do I do it well?

Knowing your strengths in your current season will keep you from playing the comparison game.

When I was in a season of toddlers, my children NEVER slept through the night! So when people would preach at me that the best time to have Jesus time was morning time, I would roll my eyes and mumble "If Jesus only meets me in the morning, then I ain't about that Jesus life!" When my kids were young, my most productive time was during their naps and at night after they went to bed. Currently, I have two college students, a middle schooler and two newly adopted elementary kiddos. So I'm once again figuring this out in my own life! Bottom line: Do what works for you to get things done and chase your dreams.

3. How do you honor the Sabbath? What brings you rest as you run on mission with God?

To know me is to know I'm a crazy-head about the Sabbath. In other words, if I was sitting across from you at a coffee shop, my first question to you would be how do you Sabbath? Sabbath is the glue to which your life stays healthy. We live in a hustle-your-way-to-success world. As a blue-collar-raised girl, I am all about hustle, but I've seen so many individuals, couples, and families (mine included) flame out getting lost in DOING for Jesus rather than simply RESTING in Him. Sabbath has less to do with a schedule-less day and more to do with what fills you up. If I could Sabbath at the beach every Friday, I WOULD! Nature is my Sabbath-scape. It's where God speaks and I listen. What is your Sabbath? What brings you peace, a clear mind, and a full heart? Practice it, fight for it, and in doing so, your capacity to do the things you are called to do will come with a deep, sustaining joy in midst of both your failure and success.

**TRISHA
DAVIS**



THANK YOU:

KRISTEN BEAUMONT

AUDREY CARMONA

ERIN CARROLL

LARA CASEY

KIM DAVIS

TRISHA DAVIS

RACH KINCAID

JENA HOLLIDAY

DEBBIE HOPPER

HAYLEY MORGAN

JULIANNA MORLET

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